UTAH LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS



Municipal Planning – rural communities



103 towns (pop. under 1,000)

94 cities of the 5th class (pop. under 10,000) ULCT categories
160 cities as
"traditional
rural" or "rural
hub/resort"



What we've heard from our members

PRIORITIES

- Tax reform and "ripple effects"
- Economic development opportunities
- Housing
- Water conservation

CHALLENGES

- Planning and implementation resources
- Capacity building staff and expertise
- Lack of educated workforce and difficulty attracting people
- Inflexibility of incentives and tax credits (job creation, TRT)



Training and collaboration

Land Use Academy of Utah



- Statewide land use training with majority rural participation
- Collaboration with AOGs, MPOs, the Rural Planning Group, and GOED
- Bi-annual conferences to help train and build capacity



Proposed \$2M Appropriation: Technical Planning Assistance

Governor Herbert proposed \$2M ongoing General Funds to UDOT, partnering with local governments and regional planning organizations, for statewide technical planning assistance.

A Proven Model of Technical Assistance for **Locals: The Story of the TLC Program**



The Transportation and Land Use Connection (TLC) program is an example of a technical assistance program that LAND USE CONNECTION helps local governments

address growth challenges. TLC is administered by the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) and funded in partnership with UDOT, UTA, and Salt Lake County. All of Utah's MPOs provide technical and planning assistance.

The TLC program has already helped over 40 communities plan, develop policies, and ultimately produce change. wfrc.org/tlc

Ongoing priorities

- Ensuring city participation in rural economic development – coordination on SB 172 (Economic Development Amendments) and SB 200 (Rural Economic Development Modifications) and aligning rural incentives with shifting economy
- Statewide expansion of technical assistance programs like the Transportation and Land Use Connection program



Resort Community Development Challenges

- What is a "resort community"?
 - Economic engines; gateways

 What are the unique challenges they face?

Outside

Outdoor Recreation Spurs Local Economic Growth, But...

A new report found that towns near plenty of outdoor recreation attract new residents and higher incomes. But this could also mean higher costs of living, affordable housing challenges, and encroachment into vulnerable landscapes.







Existing specific financial tools

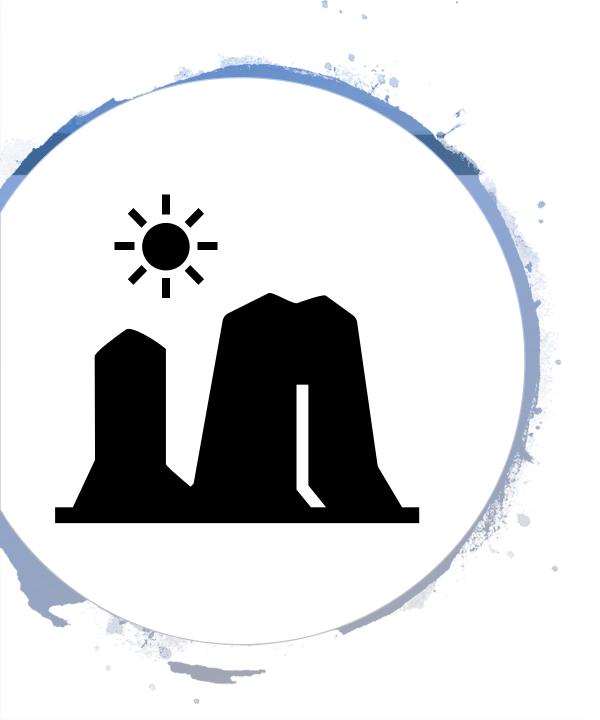
- Resort community taxes (cities/towns)
 - General sales
- Transient room taxes (counties)
 - Lodging and accommodations
- Transient room taxes (cities/towns)
 - Lodging and accommodations

Resort Community Tax (up to 1.1%, or 1.6% in italics)

- Alta
- Boulder
- Bryce Canyon City
- Brian Head
- Dutch John
- Escalante
- Garden City
- Green River
- Independence
- Kanab

- Midway
- Moab
- Orderville
- Panguitch
- Park City
- Park City East
- Springdale
- Tropic





Other cities/towns that do not qualify for RC tax but face unique tourism impacts:

- Apple Valley
- Blanding
- Bluff
- Cedar City
- Hurricane
- Ivins
- Rockville
- Santa Clara
- St. George
- Torrey
- Washington

The challenges

Economic development

Housing

Transportation & infrastructure

Public Safety

